

Compatible camera system.

The invention relates to a camera system as described in the preamble of claim 1.

Camera systems are known in the art and basically comprise a camera for gathering information such as news, sport events, etc. and a base station, for example a truck with a recording apparatus and for example communication means with a studio by satellite etc. The camera can be operated by a cameraman or being automatically operated from the base station. The camera is coupled to the base station by transmission means, for example the known triax cable.

At the moment there are basically two transmission systems it is the so-called RGB-system and the so-called Y, R-Y, B-Y-system. Until now most of the cameras are all operating according to the RGB system.

A disadvantage of the known cameras and known base stations is that a camera can only operate with a corresponding base station.

It is, *inter alia*, an object of the invention to provide a camera system that can operate with both kinds of cameras. To that end a camera system according to the invention has the features as described in claim 1. By adding a detection unit and a switching unit to the base station it is made possible to detect what kind of camera is coupled to the base station and switch over the base station to the corresponding transmission standard. The invention further relates to a base station for use in such a camera system. An embodiment of the invention comprises the features as claimed in claim 2.

A further embodiment of the invention comprises the features of claim 3. In this embodiment the camera transmits information which standard is used on the basis of the synchronization signal. Either a first mode with a so-called G signal with a horizontal sink signal or a second mode with an Y video with a composite synchronization signal.

The invention and additional features, which may be optimally used to implant the invention to advantage, will be apparent from and elucidated with reference to the examples described below hereinafter and shown in the figures.

Herein shows:

Fig. 1 schematically a camera system according to the invention, and  
Fig. 2 a base station according to the invention in more detail.

Fig. 1 shows a camera system CS according to the invention comprising at  
5 least one camera C, transmission means TM and a base station BS. The camera is coupled via  
the transmission means to the base station, whereby the base station comprises a detection  
unit du for detecting the transmission mode. The detection unit du supplies a detection signal  
ds to a switching unit SU for switching over a part of the base station to the detected  
transmission mode. In Fig. 2 the base station will be described in more detail.

10 In this way it is made possible that the base station will operate with the  
different kind of cameras without the need to change the base station to the type of camera  
used. The switchover to the other mode will be then automatically by the base station.

Fig. 2 shows an example of a base station BS2 according to the invention in  
more detail. The base station comprises an input i2 coupled to the transmission means tm2.  
15 The input is coupled to an interface unit iu2 for interfacing the base station signals with the  
transmission means. In this interface unit filters etc. are used to filter out the different signals  
to be supplied to the different parts of the base station. One output of the interface unit  
supplies a video signal v2 to be handled in the video unit vu2. The video unit comprises a so-  
called front-end module FEM. This front-end module supplies a signal to an AM  
20 demodulator AMD2. At an output this AM demodulator supplies either the Y or G signal and  
supplies the signal to the switching unit su2 at an other output the front-end module fem2  
supplies a signal to a QAM demodulator QAMD2 having two outputs for supplying at one  
output the either RY or R signal and at the other output the B-Y or B signal. Both signals are  
supplied to the switching unit su2. The switching unit su2 the three signals are supplied to a  
25 converting unit cu2 for converting the input signals into the signals Y, R-Y, B-Y. The  
switching unit 2 further comprises a pulse generator pg2. The pulse generator receives from a  
detection unit du2 a detection signal, which of the two modes is applicable. The detection  
unit is coupled to the front-end module fem2. The interface unit iu2 is further coupled to an  
audio unit au2 for supplying and receiving respectively different audio signals a21, a22, a23  
30 and a24.

It will be noticed that the camera system according to the invention can  
amended without departing from the spirit of the invention.